

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A folding knife, comprising:
2 a handle;
3 a blade pivotally connected to a handle; and
4 a locking mechanism connected to the handle to lock the blade in a closed
5 position.
- 1 2. The folding knife according to claim 1, wherein the locking mechanism is
2 pivotally connected to the housing for locking the blade in the closed position.
- 1 3. The folding knife according to claim 2, wherein the locking mechanism is
2 located near a base portion of the blade.
- 1 4. The folding knife according to claim 3, wherein the locking mechanism
2 further includes a male portion for mating with a blade female portion when the blade is in a
3 closed position and when the locking mechanism is in a locked position.
- 1 5. The folding knife according to claim 4, wherein a protrusion extends from
2 the handle and the locking mechanism further includes a recess for mating with the protrusion
3 when the locking mechanism is in a locked position.
- 1 6. The folding knife according to claim 5, wherein the locking mechanism
2 further includes a tab for manipulating the locking mechanism.
- 1 7. The folding knife according to claim 6, wherein the locking mechanism
2 further includes a pivot pin for rotation within the handle.
- 1 8. The folding knife according to Claim 1, further comprising a protrusion
2 extending inward from the handle, and wherein the locking mechanism includes a recess
3 configured to mate with the protrusion when the locking mechanism is in a locked position.

1 9. The folding knife according to Claim 1, wherein the locking mechanism is
2 further configured to be re-positioned in a locked position when the blade is in a fully open
3 position.

1 10. The folding knife according to Claim 9, wherein the blade is configured to
2 displace the locking mechanism from the locked position when the blade is returned from the
3 fully open position to the closed position.

1 11. A folding knife, comprising:
2 a housing for housing the blade when the blade is in the folded position;
3 a blade pivotally connected to the housing; and
4 a locking mechanism pivotally connected to the housing for locking the blade in
5 the closed position.

1 12. The folding knife according to claim 11, wherein the locking mechanism
2 further includes a male portion for mating with a blade female portion when the blade is in a
3 closed position and when the locking mechanism is in a locked position.

1 13. The folding knife according to claim 11, wherein the locking mechanism
2 further includes a tab for manipulating the locking mechanism.

1 14. The folding knife according to claim 12, wherein the locking mechanism
2 further includes a pivot pin for rotation within the handle.

1 15. The folding knife according to claim 12 wherein the locking mechanism is
2 further configured to be re-positioned in the locked position when the blade is in a fully open
3 position.

1 16. The folding knife according to claim 15 wherein the blade includes a
2 protrusion configured to displace the locking mechanism from the locked position when the
3 blade is returned from the fully open position to the closed position.

1 17. The folding knife according to claim 11, wherein the locking portion
2 further includes a male portion configured to align with a female portion when the blade is in a
3 closed position, the female portion positioned on a same side as a blade edge.

1 18. A folding knife, comprising:
2 a handle with opposing sides to define an opening for housing the blade when the
3 blade is in the folded position;
4 a protrusion extending from one of the opposing sides into the opening;
5 a blade pivotally connected to the housing; and
6 a locking mechanism pivotally connected to the housing for locking the blade in
7 the closed position, the locking mechanism having a recess for mating with the protrusion to
8 when the locking mechanism is in a locked position.

1 19. A folding knife, comprising:
2 a handle with opposing sides to define an opening for housing the blade when the
3 blade is in the folded position;
4 a protrusion extending from one of the handle opposing sides into the opening;
5 a blade pivotally connected to the housing, the blade having a female portion; and
6 a locking mechanism pivotally connected to the housing for locking the blade in
7 the closed position, the locking mechanism having a male portion for mating with the blade
8 female portion when the blade is in a closed position, and the locking mechanism further having
9 a recess for mating with the protrusion when the locking mechanism is in a locked position.

1 20. The folding knife according to claim 19, wherein the female portion of the
2 blade is positioned along a sharpened edge side of the blade.

1 21. The folding knife according to claim 19, wherein the locking mechanism
2 is configured to be repositioned to the locking position when the blade is in a fully open position.

1 22. A method for locking a blade in a folding knife in a closed position,
2 comprising:
3 retracting the blade into a housing for storing the blade when it is in the closed
4 position;
5 positioning a locking mechanism into a locked position so that a portion of the
6 locking mechanism interfits with a portion of the blade; and
7 temporarily locking the locking mechanism into place by a recess interfitting with
8 a protrusion extending from the housing.

1 23. A folding knife, comprising:
2 means for retracting the blade into a housing for storing the blade when it is in the
3 closed position;
4 means for positioning a locking mechanism into a locked position so that a
5 portion of the locking mechanism interfits with a portion of the blade; and
6 means for temporarily locking the locking mechanism into place by a recess
7 interfitting with a protrusion extending from the housing.